



## It's Been A While...

It has been a while since the last issue was released. Sorry about the delay.

On the evening of December 2nd I experienced rectal bleeding and the next morning, I was admitted into a local community hospital. They scheduled me for a colonoscopy and found a tumor in the right wall of my descending colon. The tumor was removed on the following Wednesday (December 8th) and I was home again on December 10th, but with strict orders to rest and let my body recover. The tumor was cancer, but they got it all. The bone scan, blood work, CAT scan, lymph-nodes, and chest Xrays were all clear. No chemo, Yes!

I entered 2011 a cancer survivor and that makes my involvement with ukuleles, the makers, and the players all that much more special.

Doctor's assure me that I need not worry about my health and that an annual colonoscopy will reveal any issues that might exist in the future, but, chances are I have a long life ahead of me and lots of ukuleles to play.

There was an outpouring of support from the global community of ukulele players and I am grateful for all the encouragement you gave to my wife at a stressful time for her. Hey, I was on pain meds and didn't feel a thing through the early days of recovery. So, I wasn't stressed at all. :o)

Before I left the hospital, I was playing ukulele. The doctors and nurses all enjoyed the music and one nurse in particular grew fond of the uke. I had my wife bring me an extra ukulele and I gave it to the nurse before I checked out and headed for home.

Music is one of my passions and most of our readers can say the same thing. Playing the ukulele makes me smile and brings smiles to other people's faces, too. No, it's not a guitar and that is one of its greatest charms.

In this issue, we review the KoAloha Pineapple Sunday. In other ukes, Ohana has provided the SK-15 in two different colors. This is a student uke and very affordable. It is also a great performer at a price that is hard to beat.

Kala Ukes sent us the Maple Pocket Uke and one lucky reader will win it. What a fun little ukulele.

The artist spotlight features the "Ukulele Cowboy Society" (from Columbus, Ohio - hey, a hometown act).

I am happy to be in the saddle again and I am feeling energetic and optimistic about where we are going and what we are doing.

Keep the news and information on your regional events and festivals coming. We can't make all of them but we'd certainly like to tell people where they are.

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## Ukulele Cowboy Society

This ukulele "duo" is known around Mid Ohio as the "Ukulele Cowboy Society" and with a name like that, you'd think their performances would feature old "Western" standards like "Don't Fence Me In" and "Red River Valley".

Catch a live performance and what you WILL hear sounds a lot more like popular tunes from the 30s, 40s, and 50s. These "cowboys" will send you swooning with such great tunes as "Walkin' After Midnight" and "Sentimental Journey".

Jesse Chandler sings smooth jazz and plays her uke while Michael Kaplan provides a rock-solid rhythm on his ukuleles or tenor guitar.

The Ukulele Cowboy Society will take you back to the days of the speak-easy and bathtub gin. Jesse is dressed for the occasion in something you'd expect to see in a Bogart flick. Michael is content to sit behind her and lay-down a steady accompaniment on one of his ukuleles (baritone, banjo-uke, or a soprano) or the previously mentioned tenor guitar.

By the end of the first set, you'll be wanting to sing these beloved songs.

**Q:** How long have you both played ukulele?

**A:** We both started playing in 2007.

**Q:** How long has this "duo" been together?

**A:** We've been married for 15 years and playing out together since 2008 indifferent incarnations with other people.

**Q:** Did you start the "band" playing ukulele or were you guitar-oriented?

**A:** We formed the band with the intention of playing ukulele, tenor guitar and percussion.

**Q:** From your website, I see that you play "jazz", so why call yourselves "The Ukulele Cowboy Society"?

**A:** We felt it had a fun, socialist sort of flair! Like we were a collective of crazy uke-playin' gone-rogue workers. We thought about the name quite a bit when we decided to form the duo and wanted to evoke something that would transcend the traditional notions that people tended to connect to the ukulele. We also thought the name had a "punk" quality that might connect to younger



audiences and a "nostalgic" one that would be more universal. And since we are simultaneously punk and nostalgic it seemed to say who we are.

**Q:** Your "base" is Columbus, Ohio. Do you ever take the act on the road?

**A:** We are starting to and are certainly open to more in the future. Last summer, we attended Augusta Heritage Swing week and got to play a bit there. We are hoping in the next year when we release our EP to branch out to other cities to play, promote, and make new friends.

**Q:** How many ukuleles do you have?

**A:** Between Ukes and Banjo Ukes, we have close to 100 instruments. Many are orphans that we have found in pieces that Michael has restored or re-built altogether.

Michael: I've honed my modest luthier skills on some pretty rough instruments.

**Q:** What ukes do you take on stage?

Michael: I primarily play a Pono mahogany baritone (soprano tuning, low "g") and a Pono cut-away baritone with a spruce top and Macassar Ebony body (re-entrant tuning) I also play a Rick Turner "Compass Rose" sycamore tenor (tuning, low "g"). Occasionally, I play a Eleuke baritone when I need a vintage "electric" sound.

Jesse: I play an Oscar Schmidt koa baritone and a beautiful mahogany Mele double-hole tenor.

**Q:** Do you have any favorites? If so, why?

**A:** Michael: On stage, I love the dependability of the Pono mahogany bari. The adjustable truss rod is indispensable and the instrument just sounds great. It has robust sustain and the neck is fast. I'm also a big fan of the lower-profile frets that Pono is known for. The spruce/ebony Pono is incredible as well but it really projects and I have to be careful with feedback issues. From the collection: I have a circa 1950's Arthur Godfrey Vega Solo-Lute that I love to noodle around with for jazz, along with a Yasuma baritone. Recently, I finished restoring a Biltmore short-scale baritone that's a blast to play. Of course, I would be remiss if I didn't mention my favorite banjo uke, a Gibson UB-1 and my Harmony Johnny Marvin Airplane tenor. My latest restoration project is a Gibson Trapdoor. The whole thing is apart and I'm starting

from the "ground up." Can you tell that I love to talk about my ukes?

Jesse: I have a Harmony soprano that was owned by Jo Stafford. Michael acquired from her estate after she died, repaired it and gave it to me for my birthday!

**Q:** Do you prefer to mic the instruments or play "plugged"?

**A:** Michael: Anything that we play on stage is outfitted with a Mi-Si active pickup. They sound great with really accurate reproduction and their rechargeable, super-capacitor is a huge plus. I do all the retrofitting if an instrument needs a pickup. We also use Planet Waves circuit-breaker instrument cables. These are invaluable for performance. You can mute your instrument for re-tuning, etc, right at the plug-in. Just great.

I used to use vintage D'Armond ukulele pickups that surface mount with rubber bands. I loved the sound but they would actually fall off when I was performing! Nothing like hearing a big "clunk" in the middle of a jazz ballad.

Jesse: Keeps the performance spontaneous and edgy!

**Q:** Who were some of your musical influences? What about ukulele influences?

**A:** Jesse - The Beatles, Judy Garland, Billie Holiday, Johnny Cash, Jo Stafford, Ella Fitzgerald, Lena Horne,

Springsteen, Peggy Lee, Ray Charles, Patsy Cline, The Gershwins.

Michael - Django Reinhardt, Wes Montgomery, Joe Pass, Barney Kessel, Charlie Christian, George Formby, Ralph Shaw, Gerald Ross, Glen Rose.

**Q:** Do you ever perform with other musicians? If so, with whom?

**A:** We've always been a straight duo. However, for our EP and album to follow we are working with several guest artists.

**Q:** Do you plan to perform at any of the many ukulele festivals regionally or nationally?

**A:** We would love to perform at Uke Fests. We've been so busy playing locally and getting ready to make our record that we haven't had much time to pursue that avenue. But it's something that we are looking to in our future.

**Q:** I know that you have made some videos, do you have any CD recordings available?

**A:** Right now, we have demo tracks available on our website. But we are very excited to say that we are presently working on an EP for Spring 2011, with a full album release to follow... So stay tuned!

**Q:** Do you write original material?

**A:** Jesse: I have written songs on and off throughout my life and have started again more



seriously in the last couple of years. Right now we are completely consumed with re-purposing public domain songs from about 1900-1922. Which, of course, means updating and in some cases, rewriting lyrics and adding bridges to make the music more contemporary and accessible to new listeners. Our first public releases will be from that pool of re-energized music.

**Q:** Columbus, Ohio used to be a pretty big redneck, rocker town. Have you met up with any hecklers playing the Columbus scene? If so, how did you handle the situation?

**A:** We have not run into strangers who heckle us, just friends!

Jesse: I usually heckle in response.

Michael: Basically, she just heckles them even if they are minding their own business!

**Q:** Where can readers catch your live performances?

**A:** We play regularly at the "Old Bag of Nails" in Grandview, Tristano's Pizzeria, Sean Christopher Gallery, Sag-E Sisters, Brazenhead in Dublin. They can check our website, which we are very responsible about updating for other venues and dates. We play several times a month and while many are private events, most are open to the public, so we can be found out there!

**Q:** Where can readers find you

online?

**A:** They can find us at [www.theukulelecowboysociety.com](http://www.theukulelecowboysociety.com)

We're also on Myspace and Facebook. Just do a search for The Ukulele Cowboy Society.

**Q:** Do you have any future musical goals you want to share with the readers?

**A:** Our intentions are to make albums and videos and to continue to play for all types of audiences. We would love to be playing in venues that support a supper-club or cafe society performance, where we project images and work in a little discussion of the history of swing and jazz counter culture, while doing a bit of "schtick."

Presently, one component of our performance includes a bit of history that helps place the music in historical context. In certain venues, we have the opportunity to comment on a song or group of songs that we are performing. This gives us the opportunity to provide or in some cases remind, the audience with information about who originally recorded and performed the song and how it related to the world at the time.

We were university professors for 20 years and some habits die hard. We love the opportunity that performing allows for musical conversation and that give and take with our audience.

With older audiences, we are

simply helping them to reminisce a past and they in turn have wonderful experiences to share with us. Whereas younger people are still discovering this style and period of music and ultimately bring a whole different kind of curiosity and interest to the listening experience.

**Q:** Any last thoughts, maybe encouragement for new performers?

**A:** Michael: While on stage, stay present and listen carefully. And above all, relax and have fun.

Jesse: Listen to all genres of music and see where it leads your imagination. There is gold everywhere, you just have to have an open heart and investigative mind and the desire to find it. But the most important thing, I believe, about being an artist is knowing who you are and developing a vision from that. Tell your truth, be authentic to who you are; that principle will always take you in the most interesting and congruent direction.

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I'd like to thank Jesse and Michael for agreeing to be the spotlight artists for this issue.

I had an interest in interviewing them because they have been performing with increasing frequency over the last year and are planning for future recordings and gigs. This is one act to watch. We'll see where this go.



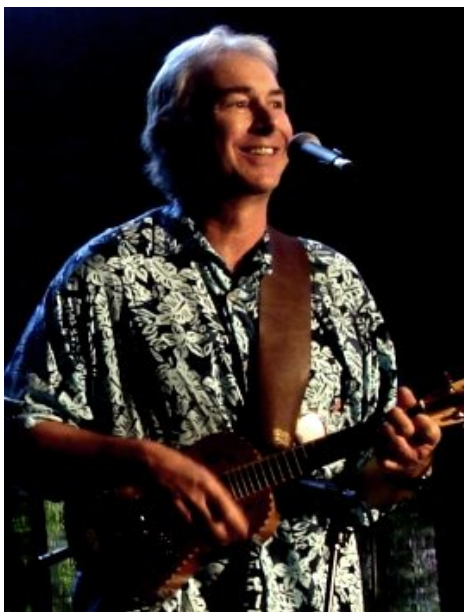
## Learn Finger-Style Uke

Mark "Kailana" Nelson and music publishing powerhouse Mel Bay have teamed up to bring you "Learn To Play Fingerstyle Solos for Ukulele".

Mark began his musical career playing Appalachian Dulcimer. In 1979, he won the "National Dulcimer Championships".

Today, Mark plays guitar and ukulele and teaches in "camps" and seminars throughout the United States of America.

In pursuit of "Slack Key" guitar, Mark found himself in Hawaii. Having become friends with Keola Beamer, the noted Hawaiian musician, the two went on to host "The Aloha Music Camp", a week-long Hawaiian Music and Cultural



event.

"Learn To Play Fingerstyle Solos for Ukulele" comes with a CD to facilitate learning. That makes this book rather unique in the world of how-to tomes. You don't often see book and CD combinations on store shelves.

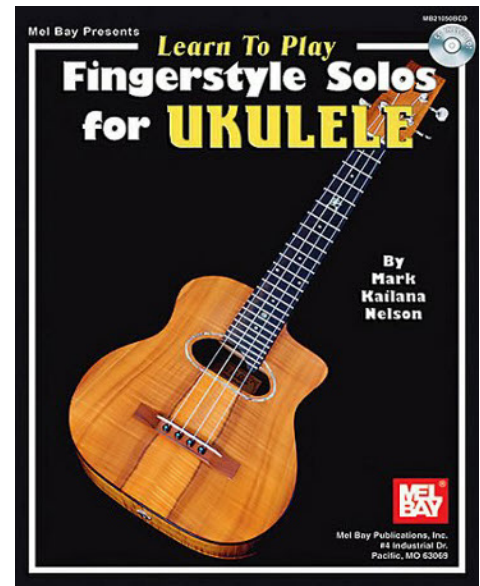
The book features a "Getting Started" section that includes lessons of music notation and reading tablature.

Page ten begins the actual "How to Play Fingerstyle Ukulele" section. The lessons include tablature below with chord charts above.

Starting with "scales", Mark eases you into fingerstyle playing by getting your fingers warmed up and teaching you the principles of this style of play. This is a great way to build a solid foundation— one with which you will surely grow as a musician.

After learning and mastering the rudiments of fingerstyle, you can put it to practice with a long list of Hawaiian favorites, popular folk tunes, and even classics like "Greensleeves".

The arrangements run the gamut from easy to play through more complex



numbers that will challenge experienced players. This book will take you from a fingerstyle noob to a skilled player before you are done.

At the end of the book there is an appendix with chord Inversions so that you can figure out tunes on your own and continue learning.

Mark has done an excellent job with this book. It really is a great learning tool. No book can fully replace face-to-face instruction, but some books are better replacements than others. In this case, the book handles the task quite well.

Read the book and if you want more, you can check out Mark's website here:

<http://mark-o.com/>  
and  
[www.AlohaMusicCamp.com](http://www.AlohaMusicCamp.com)

Spend a week with Mark and you will come away with a lot of good lessons. Meanwhile, the book is a great start and I give it a big thumb's up.

# Digital Recording and Distortion

I was working on a music project with a friend some years ago and we were playing guitar and ukulele, among other instruments. I was not happy with the overall sound.

My friend was using "distortion" from a small combo amp and we were recording digitally. When I listened to the playback, I was hearing way too much distortion.

One common problem with home-recording enthusiasts, and sometimes even professional studio engineers is using way too much reverb. The use of distortion falls into that same category- one of a little bit goes a long way. I mean a loooong way!

Now that the trend in combo amps is "modeling", by that I mean imitating the sound of famous amps of the past, even inexpensive practice amps are getting into the technology.

The problem is that using many of these features during live play

sounds pretty cool and very bad when recorded, especially with digital recording gear.

If you want to use distortion to make your ukulele sound like hard-rock guitar, back off the distortion and do your recording. Listen to it right away and then call it a night. Then listen to it again the next day with fresh ears. Chances are good that you will think the track that sounded so cool the night before sounds too dirty the next day.

If you want to use an amp for ukulele, or acoustic guitar for that matter, you should take a serious look at acoustic instrument amps and not be too enchanted with the new modeling amps.

Below are pictured the Fender Mustang modeling amp and the Acoustasonic Junior. If given the choice, I'd pick the acoustic amp any day. The results will be a lot better whether in the studio or in a live performance and I think you'll agree.



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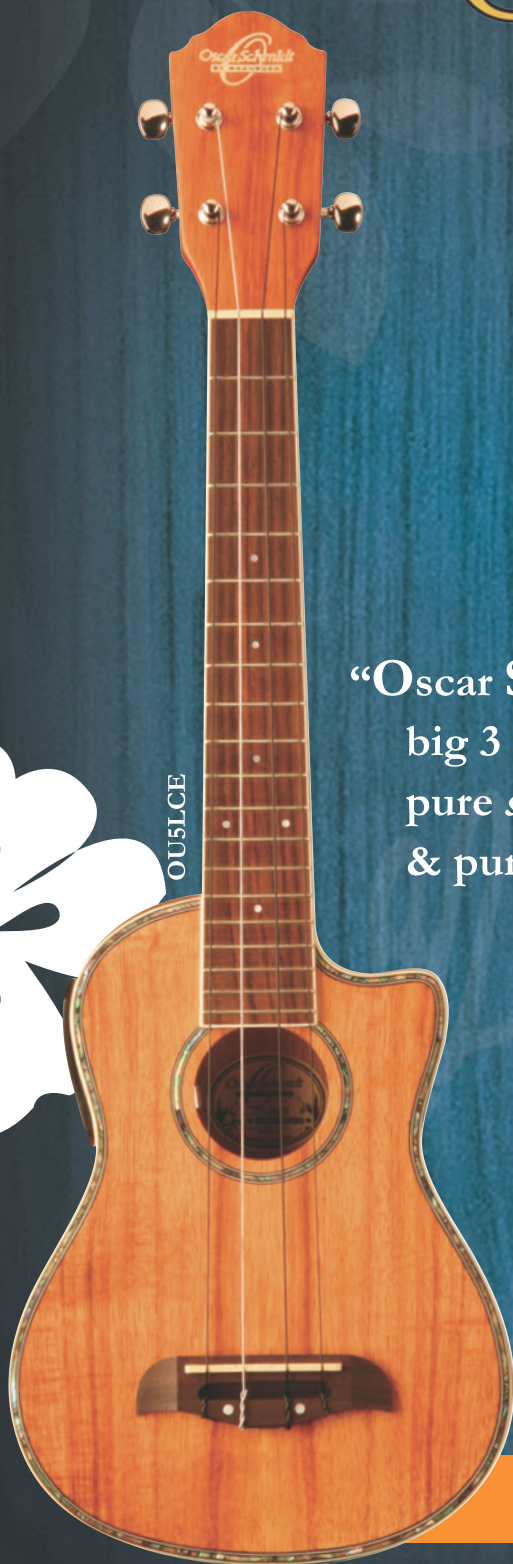
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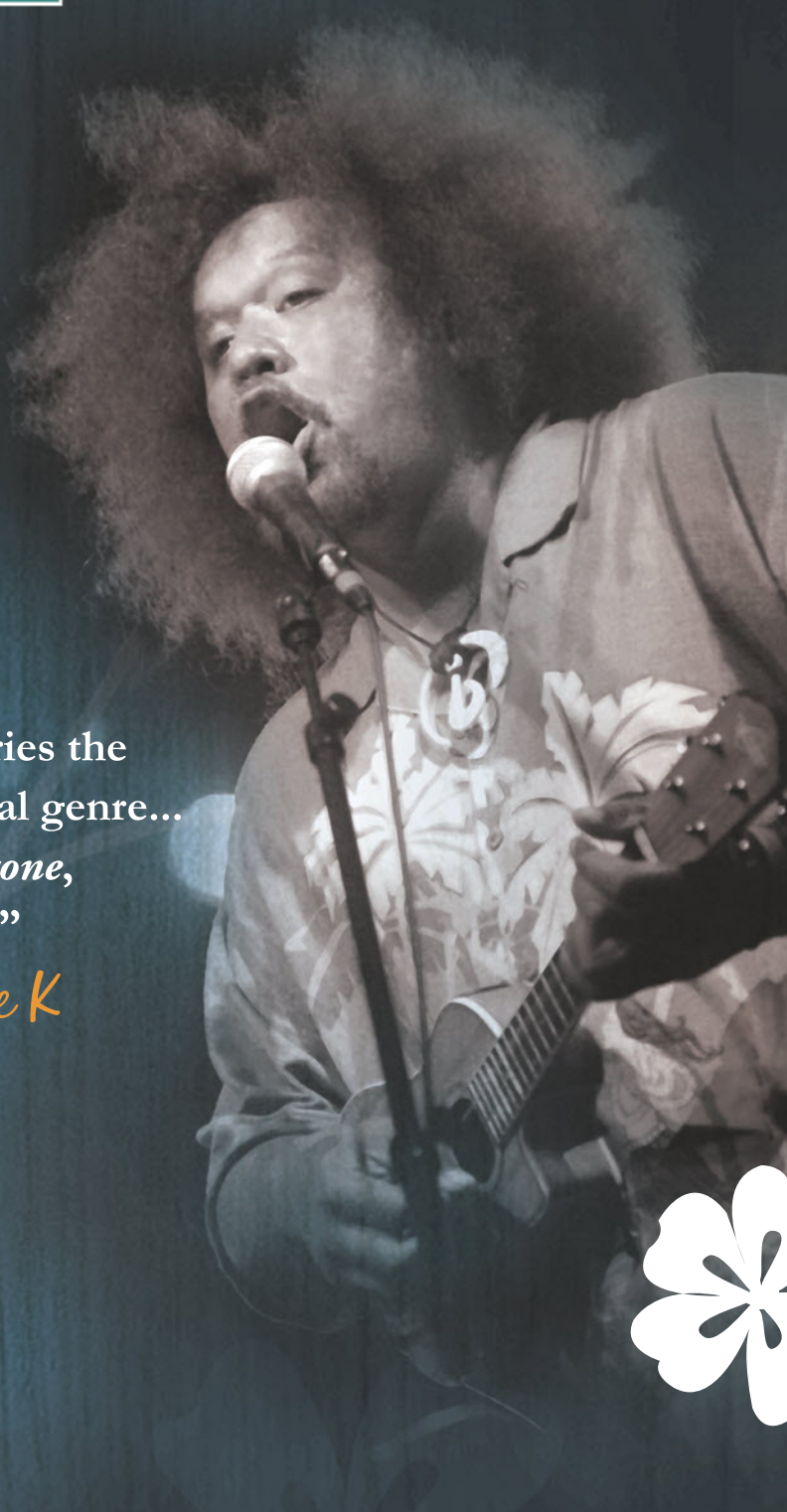
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## Ohana SK-15

It seems that when someone takes an interest in ukulele, they first they want to know is what would be a good "first uke", not too expensive, but high enough quality to actually be playable.

Ohana has been building value-priced ukuleles with solid wood tops, backs, and sides since they entered the business. What people don't know is that they have also been making budget-priced "student ukes" that are perfect for schools to supply their music classes.

The SK-15 is a laminated ukulele that performs like a solid-wood, higher-priced model. These soprano ukes are not toys, they are genuine musical instruments and I was amazed just how well they project sound when you strum them.

Ohana sent me two samples for this review. One was gloss black and had a flawless finish. The other was gloss red and really pretty.

Both ukes had great intonation and the necks were perfect. The frets on both samples were clean and smooth. I found no sharp edges and no rough spots all the way up the neck.

The shape of the neck was comfortable in my hands and

while I sometimes feel a soprano neck is cramped for my long fingers, the SK-15 did not feel too small for me.

This model features a laminated mahogany body. Binding adds a little durability around the edges of the body. That is important since kids can put a lot of wear on an instrument that they can carry anywhere.

This uke is lightweight and well-balanced. The fretboard is rosewood and so is the bridge. The geared tuners are not too heavy and make tuning easy. That is another great feature for beginners, especially kids.

The nut and saddle appear to be plastic, but they do the job nicely. I didn't encounter any buzzing or dead spots.

Many student ukuleles feel cheap and often have poor action. Not the SK-15. Ohana made sure that these ukes will make learning to play easy and enjoyable. The action was low and fast. Both ukes were a pleasure to play. Both held tune very nicely even when played hard.

After reviewing these ukes, I have to say that I'd recommend them to anyone wanting to learn how to play the ukulele.



Ohana has a winner with the SK-15 and the performance of the two samples they sent me was far above most of the other student models in the market.

The SK-15 is a great little uke and a great value. I particularly liked the look of the red one. The fit and finish of both were perfect. It's hard to believe they cost so little and deliver so much. I'm impressed.

# Monitors

Good monitors are worth their weight in gold.

No, I don't mean computer video displays, I am talking about audio monitors.

When it comes to live performance, a band needs to hear what they are playing. If they can't hear, timing will suffer and a good group of musicians can wind up sounding like a garage full of highschool rock-star wannabes.

When you perform live you want to be able to hear your band-mates playing so that you don't miss a beat. To keep things tight, you need a good set of monitors, preferable the kind that angle upward and you want to check your sound levels ahead of time so that everyone can hear without any guesswork.

If your mixer does not have a monitor channel, get rid of it and get one that does.

Don't despair, if you are playing small gigs in tight places and can position speakers so that you can hear what the audience does without feedback, you might get away with it, but that won't work for bigger areas and ukulele festivals.

The ideal situation is to invest in a good board with monitor channels and have some really clear floor (or stand-mounted) monitors to keep timing sharp.

## Songs Include:

The Lady is a Tramp  
Walkin' After Midnight  
Lullaby of Birdland  
Nearness of You  
In a Little Hula Heaven  
On the Road Again  
Don't Fence Me In  
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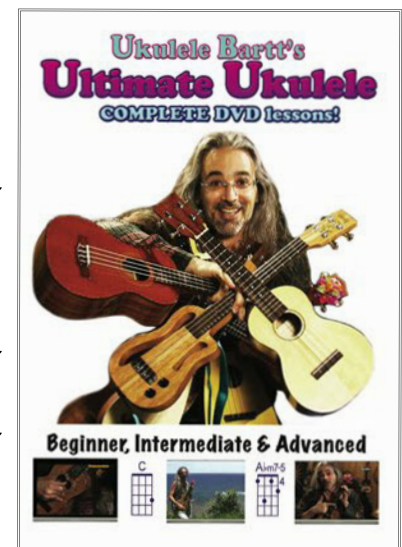
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<http://bartt.net>







## Kala Maple Pocket Uke

Rick Carlson from Kala Ukes sent me their Maple Pocket Uke for this issue's Kala Uke Give-A-Way and what a sweet little uke it is.

If you remember the original solid mahogany Pocket Uke we reviewed in issue 15, the maple model is essentially the same, but it is made of spruce with a veneer of maple covering the top, back, and sides. It's not "plywood", it is a very thin layer of maple over a solid spruce constructed body. Think of it as primarily a cosmetic treatment.

The Pocket Uke is sixteen inches long top to bottom. The neck has twelve frets and is wider than I thought it would be the first time I picked one up to play it. The nut is 1 3/8 inches wide. String spacing makes finger-picking easy.

The maple veneer body is really pretty. The fit and finish are excellent. The body is seven inches long and thinner than a standard soprano or sopranino uke. Still, the volume of music that this diminutive instrument produces will astound you.

I looked this sample over carefully and found the satin finished body was flawless. The mahogany neck was smooth and felt nice in my hands. The

rosewood fretboard was smooth and the nickel-silver frets were well-dressed.

The friction tuners were easy to adjust and I was impressed with the clearance between the tuning buttons. I expected my knuckles to keep knocking the neighboring strings out of tune while I was trying to adjust my intended string, but that didn't happen. Even though my fingers are long, I had no difficulty at all.

The Pocket Uke has a rosewood bridge placed way down on the lower bout. If it were right under the sound hole, it would be almost impossible to tune, not to mention what that would do to the volume of the uke.

This is a clever design and I am sure that it was achieved through much experimentation and it took a lot of trial and error to get it right. After all, nothing quite like this had been done until Kala did it. This is no copy-cat uke.

The action on this uke is set a little higher than most Kala ukes. I am sure that this was done to maximize the volume that it produces. The action is not bad. In fact, it is very playable. It is just a little higher than most of



their other models.

If you want a pint-sized uke that you can carry anywhere, take a good look at the Maple Pocket Uke. It's a pretty little instrument with a big voice and it is incredibly cute. My wife fell in love with it.

We'll be giving this one to one lucky reader in this issue's give-away





## KoAloha Pineapple Sunday

KoAloha's Alvin Okami, a.k.a. Papa KoAloha, designed the Pineapple Sunday and after playing it, I have to say that this ukulele is, indeed, a work of art.

It is hard to describe, but the Pineapple Sunday has a sound like no other ukulele I have ever heard. It is beautifully clear and clean. It has a bell-like quality that rings in a manner that sets it apart from all the competition.

Tom Noble, also known as "BeachBumTom" on Flea Market Music Bulletin Board related a story about thirteen Pineapple Sunday uke players on stage together at a So-Cal club event. Play one for a while and you will fall in love with it. That is how one club can get thirteen of its

members totally enchanted by one man's Pineapple Sunday. I don't think I have ever heard of another ukulele getting that reaction.

When I opened the case containing the Pineapple Sunday and first picked it up, I looked at the body, carefully examining every seam. The fit and finish were picture perfect. The spikey pineapple shape was totally unique and the scored pattern on the soundboard is also one-of-a-kind.

The hand-carved neck is sleek and feels superb in my hands. The frets are smooth as silk and there are no rough spots or sharp edges. The KoAloha brand logo is carefully carved in



the headstock. From top to bottom, this ukulele is beautiful

I found the Grover machines make this uke a pleasure to tune. The fluorocarbon strings had superb tone and the sustain this ukulele produces blew me away. What a fantastic sound. I have nothing in my collection that can rival this ukulele in sustain or purity of tone. It simply rings like a bell.

I played up and down the full length of the neck, carefully inspecting all twenty-one frets. I encountered no dead spots and the sustain was pretty much the same from one end to the other.

There are inlays on frets five, seven, ten, and twelve. There are also dots on the side of the neck facing upward for easy reference.



*detail of the headstock*

After having played the Pineapple Sunday for a while, and having recorded a few songs with it, I can say that it has earned a place of honor in my personal collection. It has a distinct sound, a unique look, and is, perhaps, the only ukulele made today with a neck that is hand-carved.

If you want an instrument that is incomparable, look no further than the Pineapple Sunday. It is not cheap, but, you won't find a "better" ukulele anywhere.

I tip my hat to Alvin Okami, a.k.a. Papa KoAloha, master craftsman, for designing and building the Pineapple Sunday.

This ukulele truly is a joy to play and a pleasure to hear. Its sweet tone sings to me. In short, I LOVE IT!



## Got Uke?



You can find Kala Ukuleles at  
[www.ukeladymusic.com](http://www.ukeladymusic.com)





# Going Wireless?

I had a friend that insisted that the way to go with stage mics and connections to amps or the mixing board was via wireless transceivers.

I am so glad that I did not jump into that when he first mentioned it.

With recent government mandates in radio communications, for the sake of "emergency services", the vast majority of wireless microphones and musical instrument transceivers have been recalled. Many of those people that were early adopters have been given the cold shoulder and lost their investment since they are no longer allowed to use their old wireless sound reinforcement gear.

There is not way around it, the gear has to be retired and replaced with mics and transceivers of the right frequencies. That's a bummer for those of you that made the investment when wireless mics first appeared on the market.

For now, I am really happy with my mics, all of which have cords. I am thrilled that I can plug-in a cord on my bass when I need it, too. In fact, if I don't mic any of my ukuleles, my condenser mics will do a very nice job as long as I am content to stand at the mic to play and sing. By the way, wireless headsets might have to go too.



<http://www.wsukes.com>



<http://www.ukulelenoir.com/>



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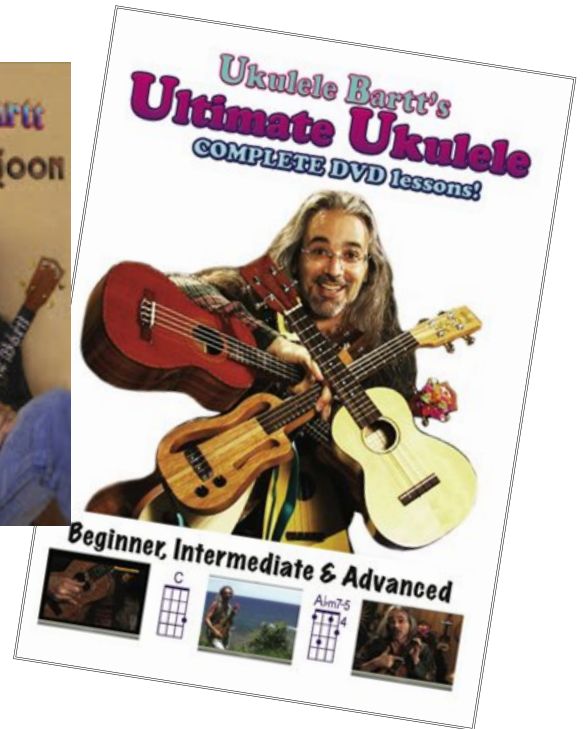


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<http://www.ukulelecosmos.com> - excitement, music, lively discussion, and a whole lot more...



## 'Ukulele Bartt In Your Mailbox

Ukulele Bartt has given us a supply of his CDs and how-to DVD to give away to some lucky readers.

Over the next few issues, until our stock is gone, we will be shipping one "prize" per issue to one lucky reader.

If you have not heard Ukulele Bartt's "Under the Big Fat Moon" you are in for a treat, if you are one of the lucky winners. The instructional DVD is very well done and Bartt is a great instructor. When the supply runs out, that's it.

**Check out [bartt.net](http://bartt.net) for cool ukulele stuff.**

# ukulele player and Kala present...

ukulele player and Kala Ukuleles came together to bring you this exciting opportunity. One lucky reader will win this ukulele.



All you have to do is submit your name, an e-mail address, and a shipping address so that if you are the winner, we will be able to ship it to you. You only need to submit your information one time and you will be in the running for all of the Kala Ukulele give-a-ways.

You read about the Kala Maple Pocket ukulele in this issue of ukulele player, now, here is your chance to win it. Follow the instructions below...

We will not share your contact information with anyone for any reason.

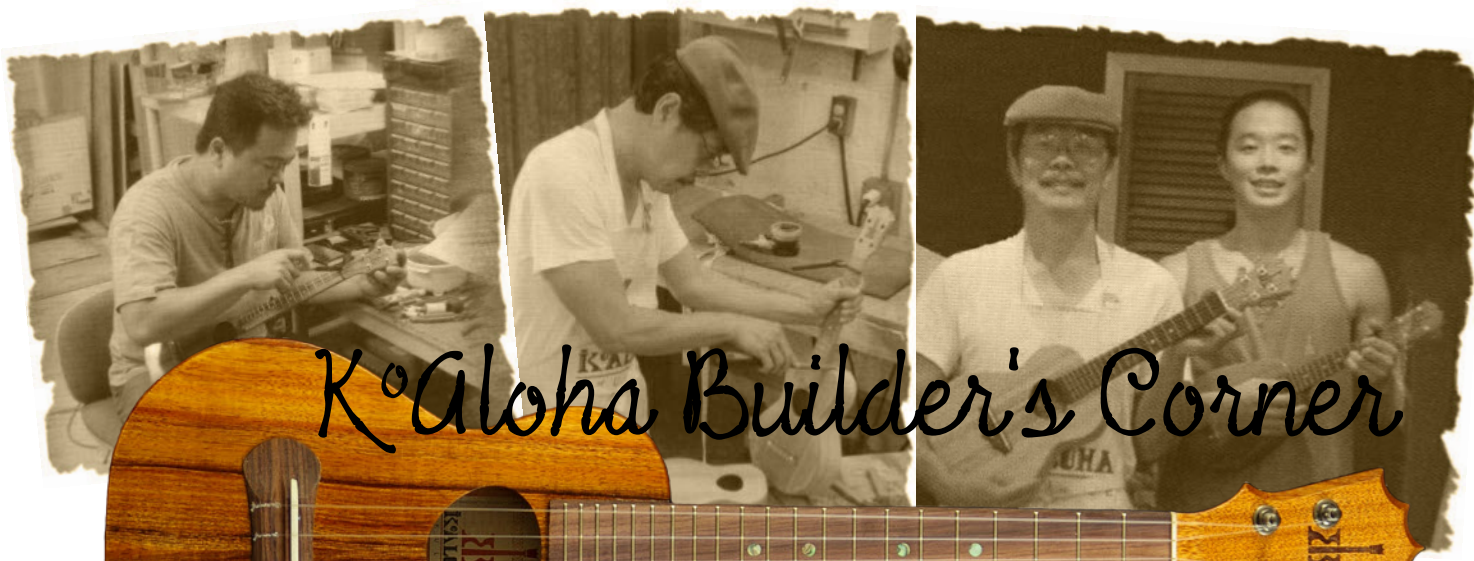
note: if you have trouble with the form, e-mail your entry to [giveaway@tricornpublications.com](mailto:giveaway@tricornpublications.com)  
Include name, shipping address, e-mail address.



Go to this website and fill in the form and click the submit button for your CHANCE to win. There is no purchase necessary. One submission per person will be counted. The lucky winner will be decided by a random number generator program. The contest entry cut-off date will be the 20th of every month of the current issue. The winner will be chosen on the 24th of that same month. The winner will be announced on Ukulele-Cosmos, Ukulele Underground, and Flea Market Music.

[http://www.tricornpublications.com/uke\\_contest.htm](http://www.tricornpublications.com/uke_contest.htm)

Thanks for reading ukulele player  
and thanks to Kala Ukuleles for their support.



## Q&A

**Q:** Do the fretboards that extend over the soundboard (to the soundhole in some cases) affect the sound of the uke?

-David

**A:** Some builders have attempted to build instruments where the fretboard does not contact the sound-board but is floating above it. For all the effort it takes to do this, results seem to be subjective at best. It also places the fretboard high enough above the top of the 'ukulele to make playing the upper frets more difficult than necessary.

**Q:** Hi, my question is more of a philosophical one, rather than about the nuts and bolts of (or wood and glue) making an ukulele. But it's something that effects all of us uke enthusiasts, and it's not something that's talked about too often.

It's no secret that we all love our koa. Sure we may play around

with other tonewoods, but 99.9% of us will pick koa 10 times out of 10 for that classic sound and gorgeous looks.

It's my understanding that koa only grows in Hawaii, so I'm wondering about the sustainability of the popularity of koa. Is our love of ukulele destroying the environment?

Is there any way that the love of koa ukes can be reconciled with love of nature? Will there come a time when other alternatives such as mango will completely take over the spot that koa once had?

Thanks, Kim

**A:** This is a very good question and a lot of people have wondered the same thing.

The number of ukuleles produced in Hawai'i and elsewhere with genuine Hawaiian Koa is relatively small compared to the number of

Send your questions via email:  
Uke-maker@tricornpublications.com

guitars being produced by Martin and Taylor, for example.

Most of what is harvested today is done of a responsible manner with sustainability in mind. A lot of lumber comes from deadfalls, for example. Still, there are differing opinions on the consumption of Koa. Many experts believe that the forests are not threatened but are managed well enough for future use as long as we remain responsible in what is harvested.

The furniture industry has consumed a lot more lumber stock than the musical instrument manufacturing business.

The good news is that everyone is educated about the need for preservation and we are all working together to maintain stocks responsibly to ensure that future generations will enjoy the beauty of 'ukulele made with genuine Hawaiian Koa and not some other Acacia species.





## Funtime Uke-A-Rama

Mark "Kailana" Nelson sent us this CD for review along with his fingerstyle uke book reviewed elsewhere in this same issue of *ukulele player*.

Here is the lineup...

1. Kenny Hall's Brazilian Tune
2. Movin' Day
3. Apache
4. A-11
5. Sleepwalk
6. Kanaka WalWal
7. Love Alone
8. Singing Bamboo
9. Ukulele Slack Key #1
10. Two Sleepy People

From the first moment the music started I was hooked.

"Kenny Hall's Brazilian Tune" is a really catchy number with a great Latin beat. The instrumentation is wonderful and Mark even uses a barking dog to keep the tempo. I can't explain that one, you'll just have to hear it for yourself. I love the percussion and whistles, too.

"Movin' Day" reminds me of an old Southern folk song. This one features a vocal track. I love the fingerpickin' rhythm. The musical accompaniment is a minimalist approach with a very subtle bass line and I love the blend of vocals and ukulele. Nice.

"Apache" starts off with a little lead lick and jumps into a fan

strum and solid rhythm. The percussion is similar to that in the first track. I picture this song being played in some sleepy little hole-in-the-wall in a Texas border-town. The song ends with the same lead and a little wahwah treatment.

"A-11" made sense after I heard the song. "A-11" is a song on a jukebox and the singer is asking someone not to play that tune. This song features steel guitar as well as uke and bass.

"Sleepwalk" is a classic. This rendition features a nice rhythm with a good down-beat. The meter is accented with a second rhythm track. The steel guitar is very subtle here. It is not buried in the mix, it is mixed perfectly, but played in a minimalist sort of fashion. I also enjoyed the lead work on this interpretation.

"Kanaka Walwal" has a pretty melody. There is almost a harpsichord quality to this song, perhaps a bit of reverb on a steel-string guitar. The tone is warm, yet bell-like.

"Love Alone" has a Latin beat to it and the banjo uke gives a string accent. Claves provide the percussion beat. I'd love to hear a string bass on this number. That would give it more



punch on the down-beat. I'd also love to hear some vocal harmonies thrown into the mix on this song.

"Singing Bamboo" sounds a little like "Sleepwalk" to me. I like the bass line on this song and there is more than one vocal track. The steel guitar is nice.

"Ukulele Slack Key #1" is a chipper little tune. It has a steady finger-picked rhythm. This is another song where I'd love to hear a string bass really driving the meter— that or bring up the volume of the bass buitar and tweak the EQ to give it more depth.

"Two Sleepy People" is another song with vocals. This song, like the others that feature vocals, has a country flavor to it. Turn up the bass on this one, too. I love the ukulele work on this song.

This album is a nice collection of relaxing tunes. The vocals are laid-back and have a sort of easy feeling to them. The mix is very good throughout. I'd tweak the bass here or there, but no complaints. These songs would be a lot of fun for playing along. Nice work. Nice production.



## Ukulele Jim's Jumping Flea Circus

Jim Clark, a.k.a. Ukulele Jim, has done it again. This is the second CD that Jim has given us for review. This one is aimed toward kids.

Here is the song-list:

1. The Jumping Flea Circus
2. What Will You Be?
3. Rock A Bye Baby
4. The Lonely Little Saxophone
5. Wheels On the Bus
6. Yellow Bird
7. Little Star
8. The Hero Song
9. The Cowboy Song
10. Bedtime Blues
11. The Jumping Flea Circus Reprise
12. Let's Have An Old-fashioned Christmas (bonus track)

"The Jumping Flea Circus" has a nice steady rhythm accented by a tuba, not a keyboard, an actual tuba. This has a voice manipulation like the "Chipmunks". The song has a carnival feeling to it. Jim, you got a smile outta me.

"What Will You Be?" Jim brought the whole family on this recording. Your daughter is cute as can be. What a cute song.

"Rock A Bye Baby" Nice piano. This is the old lullabye with a little twist to it. Nice arrangement.

"The Lonely Little Saxophone" is

a song about a forgotten instrument. That made me think, how many forgotten instruments are in closets around the country? Gail Morrissey did an excellent job on backup vocals.

"Wheels On the Bus" is cute. Jim is joined by the kids on this song. I love the laughter. Percussion is hand-clapping and what sounds like a snare.

"Yellow Bird" starts with a ukulele and percussion. This song features hammered dulcimer. I thought so when I heard it. You can hear the resonance.

"Little Star" is derived from "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star" (supposedly composed by Mozart at age six according to some accounts). The ukulele is very nice on this song. I like the orchestration, too.

"The Hero Song" is cute. "If I was a super-hero..." The rhythm is a punchy ukulele. This song features the kids again. I love the talking part where the kids set Dad straight on what a super-hero does.

The kids set Dad straight on not being a super-villain, either. I defy you to NOT smile when you listen to this song.



"The Cowboy Song" is the song from Joe versus the Volcano. If you have not seen the movie, the song is sung by Tom Hanks and played on a soprano ukulele. This rendition is faithful to the original.

"Bedtime Blues" has a nice blues vibe to it. The kids are featured in this song, too. The ukulele work is really great on this tune. I love the banter between the kids and Dad on this song.

"The Jumping Flea Circus (reprise)" is the closing of the album. There is a keyboard line that is not listed in the credits.

The bonus track is "Let's Have An Old-fashioned Christmas". I love the melody.

This whole album was well-done. The production quality is good and the instrumentation is good. Jim's voice is good, nice tone, excellent control. I'd love to hear more backup vocals. I have a weakness for harmonies and I'd love to hear what Jim could do with his own backing vocals. I enjoyed the album. It's great family entertainment and I hope Jim's family treasures it. Nice work, Jim.



# Ukulele Club Listings...

If you would like to list your club here, submit contact information at this website:

[http://www.tricornpublications.com/uke\\_player.htm](http://www.tricornpublications.com/uke_player.htm)  
or e-mail me at this address:  
[mickey@tricornpublications.com](mailto:mickey@tricornpublications.com)  
We will add you to our list.

## USA

### Arizona

**Scottsdale Strummers, Scottsdale AZ**, Contact Pat McInnis  
weekly daytime meeting, monthly evening meeting  
email: [pat@azukulele.com](mailto:pat@azukulele.com)  
website: [azukulele.com](http://azukulele.com)

#### Tucson Ukesters

Tucson, AZ  
Meet weekly - usually on Monday afternoon  
Contact: Kristin Keller  
[twoazin@comcast.net](mailto:twoazin@comcast.net)

#### The Tucson Ukesters - performance group

Michael Crownhart - Group leader  
Contact: [AzRedShoe@juno.com](mailto:AzRedShoe@juno.com)

#### Phoenix Ukulele Meetup

<http://www.meetup.com/The-Phoenix-Ukulele-Meetup-Group/>  
4th Thursday at Dolce Video Coffee Bar  
1025 E Camelback Rd, Phoenix, AZ 85014  
Contact: Carolyn Sechler [carolyn@azcpa.com](mailto:carolyn@azcpa.com)

#### Phoenix Ukulele Meetup

Meeting weekly on Tuesday Nights at Cabin Coffee  
Other workshops and meetings as published.  
Web site: <http://www.meetup.com/The-Phoenix-Ukulele-Meetup-Group/>  
Email: [Tom@Kanikapila.us](mailto:Tom@Kanikapila.us)

## California



<http://www.wsukes.com>



<http://www.ukecast.com/mp3/>

## German Village Music Haus

### We Sell Ukuleles

expert setups for your fine  
ukuleles and guitars.

350 S. Grant Avenue  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Bill Foley, owner and luthier.  
[www.gvmh.com](http://www.gvmh.com)  
(614) 228-8467  
email: [info@gvmh.com](mailto:info@gvmh.com)



# Ukulele Clubs continued

## **Nuked Ukes**

We are in Auburn California. Welcoming players from all levels.  
contact: Loyce Smallwood  
loy@foothill.net  
www.kahi.com/loyce'sblog

## **Ukulele Society of America**

Contact: Richard Douglas  
(760) 458-6656  
300 Carlsbad Village Dr.  
Carlsbad CA, 92008  
[http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/ukulele\\_society\\_of\\_america](http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/ukulele_society_of_america)

## **Ukulele Club of Santa Cruz**

[www.ukuleleclub.com](http://www.ukuleleclub.com)

One of the Largest Ukulele clubs in America! Usually meets every third thursday at Bocci's celler in Santa Cruz, but check the website, cause it sometimes changes. Or email [Andy@cruzio.com](mailto:Andy@cruzio.com) for club information.

## **Ukulele University**

New uke club in the Sacramento, CA. Area. Meet 1st Thursday eve monthly  
email: [stuherreid@yahoo.com](mailto:stuherreid@yahoo.com)  
website: [www.ukeuniversity.com](http://www.ukeuniversity.com)

## **San Jose Ukulele Club**

Every second and fourth Tuesday in the month.  
Beginner session at 6:30 p.m. Regular meeting from 7 to 9 p.m.  
New Almaden Community Club, 21727 Bertram Road  
e-mail: [sanjoseukeclub@gmail.com](mailto:sanjoseukeclub@gmail.com)

## **San Diego Ukulele Meetup Group**

<http://www.meetup.com/San-Diego-Ukulele-Meetup-Group/>  
We meet on the first Tuesday of the month at Lion Coffee  
downtown @ 6:30pm.

## **"Ukulele Jam" hosted by Shirley Orlando.**

Meets Thursday evenings at 6:30. All levels welcome. Music is contemporary, from tin pan alley to the beach boys, etc.  
16852 Gothard St Huntington Beach CA 92647.  
[shirthings@aol.com](mailto:shirthings@aol.com) or [encantada@cox.net](mailto:encantada@cox.net)

## **Petalukes, Petaluma, CA**

Meet every Thursday night, other times too. All levels welcome, music provided  
Contact: [petaluke@comcast.net](mailto:petaluke@comcast.net)  
website: <http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/Petaluke/>

## **Colorado**

The **Denver Uke Community** has been bringing Ukemaniacs together since 2005, We meet each month on the third Saturday at Swallow Hill Music Association at 10:30am. All skill levels from beginner to

# Ukulele Clubs continued

"Wow that person ROCKS the Ukulele", we also play a wide range of music, from country, tin pan alley, Hawaiian.

<http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/UkuleleCommunityDenver/>

## Connecticut

The Ukulele Club of Southern Connecticut and the KookeeUkie Ukulele Band.

We welcome players of all skill levels and offer classes for those new to the ukulele. Check our web site at <http://www.orgsites.com/ct/uke-club/index.html>.

Pete Johnson

email=[petejhnsn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:petejhnsn@sbcglobal.net)

Ukulele Club and The Four Strings Ukulele Band of Southern Connecticut,

URL=<http://www.orgsites.com/ct/uke-club/index.html>

[petejhnsn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:petejhnsn@sbcglobal.net)

## Florida

Tampa Bay Ukulele Society

[www.meetup.com/tampabayukes](http://www.meetup.com/tampabayukes)

Check out the website for scheduled "meetups". This groups is very active.

Florida Ukulele Network

[www.FloridaUkuleleNetwork.org](http://www.FloridaUkuleleNetwork.org)

F.U.N. has meet-up groups in Broward, Palm Beach, and the Space Coast

## Chicago Illinois

CHUG - CHicago Ukulele Group

We have our monthly Chicago Uke Jam the 3rd Saturday of every month.

Please contact Henry at [Henriness@gmail.com](mailto:Henriness@gmail.com)

Oak Park Ukulele Meetup Group aka The Harrison Street Ukulele Players

Every Thursday 7P-9P Venue: La Majada Restaurant - Banquet Room

226 Harrison Street, Oak Park IL 60304 website: [www.ukulele.meetup.com/89](http://www.ukulele.meetup.com/89)

contact: [wonderwallemporium@yahoo.com](mailto:wonderwallemporium@yahoo.com)

## Kansas (and Western Missouri)

Kansas City Ukesters

<http://www.kcuke.com>

## Kentucky

# Ukulele Clubs continued

## **Kentucky Ukes**

meeting the fourth Sunday of every month  
[KentuckianaUkes@yahoo.com](mailto:KentuckianaUkes@yahoo.com)

## **Michigan**

Ukulele Jam, 4th Tuesday night of the Month Oz's  
Music Ann Arbor MI.  
[jerryefmail@yahoo.com](mailto:jerryefmail@yahoo.com)

## **Minnesota**

Two Harbors Ukulele Group (THUG), Two Harbors MN.  
Email: [al@agatebaymusic.com](mailto:al@agatebaymusic.com)

StrumMn ukulele players  
<http://strummn.nexo.com/>

## **Nevada**

### **The Ukulele Club of Las Vegas**

[www.meetup.com/ukulele-club-of-las-vegas](http://www.meetup.com/ukulele-club-of-las-vegas)

### **"Uke Nights in Reno"**

Email: [Rich@PlayUke.net](mailto:Rich@PlayUke.net)  
Local Uke gathering in Reno, NV

## **New Mexico**

### **The High Desert Sand Fleas**

Meet the 2nd & 4th Thursday of each month at the  
Albuquerque Press Club [6pm - 9pm]  
2101 Highland Park Circle, Albuquerque, New Mexico - USA  
contact: Stephen Hunt via email: [hdsfgcea@gmail.com](mailto:hdsfgcea@gmail.com).  
<http://sites.google.com/site/hdsfgcea/>

## **New York**

### **Ukulele Club of Potsdam (New York)**

meet-up every other Friday at 5PM at Tim's Comic & Game, 6 Main Street  
contact: Tim Connolly [tim@discoverpotsdam.com](mailto:tim@discoverpotsdam.com) call: (315) 268-1598.  
Loaner ukes available. Bring your uke and leave your cares at home!

### **The Lower Westchester Ukulele Club, Westchester County, New York**

<http://lowerwestchesterukuleleclub.webstarts.com/>  
E-mail: [lowerwestchesterukuleleclub@hotmail.com](mailto:lowerwestchesterukuleleclub@hotmail.com)



# Ukulele Clubs continued

## North Carolina

### Charlotte Area Ukulele Jam

contact: [ukulelerobby@gmail.com](mailto:ukulelerobby@gmail.com)

First Saturday of each month. 3 - 5 PM At "Aloha Snow"

[www.alohasnow.com](http://www.alohasnow.com)

## Ohio

### COUP (Central Ohio Ukulele Peeps)

[coup@tricornpublications.com](mailto:coup@tricornpublications.com)

### Jumping Flea Night Monthly uke strum-along

Cleveland Heights, Ohio. LAST Tuesdays 7:30 - 8:30 at Coventry Village Library.

Free & open to everyone!! Contact: [melissaogrady@ymail.com](mailto:melissaogrady@ymail.com)

## Oklahoma

### Green Country Ukes

Meeting the needs of ukulele players in the greater Tulsa area

contact via e-mail: [rskjrmall@gmail.com](mailto:rskjrmall@gmail.com)

## Pennsylvania

**Allegheny Ukulele Kollektive** (Look for us on Facebook!) New uke group taking shape. Hoping for twice monthly jams and sing-alongs for all levels.

Hollidaysburg/Altoona, Pennsylvania, Contact: Steve [kss15@psu.edu](mailto:kss15@psu.edu)

## South Carolina

### Lowcountry Strummers Ukulele Club

Charleston, SC metro area. We meet twice a month. One beginner class and open Jam each month. All are Welcome.

[www.lowcountrystrummers.com](http://www.lowcountrystrummers.com) e-mail [lowcountrystrummers@gmail.com](mailto:lowcountrystrummers@gmail.com)

## Texas

Robert S. Sparkman

[sparky.judy@tx.rr.com](mailto:sparky.judy@tx.rr.com)

### Lone Star Ukulele Club (in North Dallas)

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/lonestarukuleles>

### The Dallas Ukulele Headquarters

Go to [www.meetup.com](http://www.meetup.com) and search The

# Ukulele Clubs continued

Dallas Ukulele Headquarters to join the group. Lots of fun events and jams!

## **CHUG - Coffee House Ukulele Gang**

Fort Worth, Texas

This wild west ukulele gang meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month.  
Contact Steve for more info. (steve\_w\_williams@yahoo.com)

## **Vermont**

### **Vermont Ukulele Society**

email: vyhnak@sover.net

Meets on the second and fourth Mondays of each month.

### **Virginia Ukulele Club**

Vienna, Virginia

Meeting twice a month to play a huge range of traditional, tin pan alley, standards, and lots of pop tunes. Members come from the whole DC metro area, including Virginia, Washington DC, and Maryland. All ages and levels of ability welcome.

Contact:

Ben Farrington

ukeclub@yahoo.com

## **Washington**

### **Seattle Ukulele Players Association (SUPA)**

[www.seattleukulele.org/](http://www.seattleukulele.org/)

### **Cowlitz Ukulele Association**

Longview, WA. 98626

CowUke@yahoo.com

## **Canada**

STRING ALONG UKULELE CLUB

DUNDAS ONTARIO CANADA

[www.stringalongukulele.ca](http://www.stringalongukulele.ca)

## **UK**

### **England**

#### **Ukulele Society of Great Britain**

43 Finstock Road, London W10 6LU

Tel: 020 8960 0459

Email: [m@gicman.com](mailto:m@gicman.com)

# Ukulele Clubs continued

## **Cambridge Ukulele Co-operative [Cuckoo]**

Meet alternate Sundays 2pm-6pm  
The Portland Arms Cambridge CB4 3BAIf  
If you're cuckoo about ukes come and join us.  
<http://www.myspace.com/cambridgeukuleleclub>

## **Ukulele Philharmonic Orchestra of Sudbury**

Tuesdays evenings from 7.00pm  
The Institute, Station Road, Sudbury Suffolk CO10 2SP  
Beginners Welcome

## **Uke Wednesday Jam**

Every Wednesday 7 till closing Downstairs @ The Royal George  
Charing Cross Road, London, WC2H 0EA, U.K.  
contact: Quinc email: [qnc@qnc.tv](mailto:qnc@qnc.tv)  
<http://ukeweds.intodit.com>

## **SCUPA - Second City Ukulele Players Association**

We meet weekly on Tuesdays at 7:30pm in the upstairs room  
at The New Billesley Pub, Brook Lane, Kings Heath,  
Birmingham, West Midlands B13 0AB

## **We accommodate all players beginners to experienced.**

Call or text Jon 0787 353 1161 or email:  
[jay.eyebigfoot.com](mailto:jay.eyebigfoot.com) for more information.

## **Stockton to Darlington Ukulele Express**

Meeting monthly in Darlington, northeast England new members always  
welcome. contact Simon at [simonb250@hotmail.com](mailto:simonb250@hotmail.com)  
<http://ukuleleexpress.blogspot.com>

## **Tune Army Ukulele Club**

The Bay Horse, Front Street, Whickham, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE16 4EF  
Meeting first Monday of the month 7:30 - 9:30  
<http://tunearmy.blogspot.com/>

## **UkeGlos Ukulele Club**

Meets Every Mondays every month, 8.00pm  
The Exmouth Arms, Bath Rd  
Cheltenham, GL53 7LX

Wooden & banjo ukes welcome. All levels of playing ability & song styles. For  
full details visit: [www.ukeglos.co.uk](http://www.ukeglos.co.uk)  
<http://www.ukeglos.co.uk>

## **Ukulele Sundays host:Tim Smithies**

email: [tim@timsmithies.com](mailto:tim@timsmithies.com)  
I host a Ukulele Jam session on Sunday evenings in Sheffield UK called 'Ukulele  
Sundays' All welcome - 8.30pm onwards. Riverside Cafe Bar.  
<http://www.ukulelesundays.co.uk>.

## **"Brighton ukulele Sundays"**

Meet first Sunday of the month at the Brunswick Pub in Hove East Sussex UK.



# Ukulele Clubs continued

Visit Facebook Brighton Ukulele Sundays for more details.

## **Leicester Ukulele Club**

All welcome, First Monday of the month,  
Upstairs at Babalas Bar, Queens Road, Leicester  
Contact: dave.davies1@virgin.net or mark@littleredtruck.co.uk

## **Herts of Uke Ukulele Club**

Every 4th Sunday - 6.30pm onwards.  
Meet at The Doctors Tonic, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire, AL8 6PR

All Players Welcome

Websites: <http://sites.google.com/site/hertsofuke/>  
email: hertsofuke@gmail.com

## **Luton, UK**

We meet once a fortnight at Greenbank Music Village,  
Greenbank Hal, Cobden Street, Luton, LU2 0NG  
Anyone interested can give us a call:

Keith 07745 613931  
Scott 07976 895067  
Gerry 07785 117029  
<http://sites.google.com/site/ukuleleworkshopinluton/>

## **Ireland**

### **UKULELE IRELAND**

[ukulele@ireland.com](mailto:ukulele@ireland.com)

Irish ukulele club meets on the second saturday of  
each month. Players from all over Ireland. Ukeplayers of all levels welcome. If  
you are a visiting uke player please feel free to come along. The meetups are  
held at 2, eden park, Dunlaoire, Co. Dublin.

### **Ukuholics**

[truepants@eircom.net](mailto:truepants@eircom.net)

The Ukuholics are based in the Irish Midlands and meet once a month.  
Players of any or no ability will fit in nicely!  
Visit [www.ukuholics.webs.com](http://www.ukuholics.webs.com) for more info

## **Scotland**

### **Monday Ukearist**

Edinburgh's very own ukulele gathering. We gather once a fortnight on  
Mondays from 7 to 10(pm!) at Mackenzie School of English near the foot of  
Leith Walk

6 John's Place,  
EH6 7EP

Contact: John Hobson, +44 (0)7940 513969, [jhobson@gmail.com](mailto:jhobson@gmail.com)  
<http://ukearist.co.uk>

## South Wales

### Ukulele Nights

Cardiff's Ukulele Jam Session and Cabaret

Meet Mondays 8 p.m. at assorted venues.

Visit [www.ukenights.org.uk](http://www.ukenights.org.uk) for full listings and updates.

Contact: Nick Canham [witt29-ukenights1@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:witt29-ukenights1@yahoo.co.uk) 07971 - 719626

## Germany

### Ukulele Club of Germany

[info@ukulelenclub.de](mailto:info@ukulelenclub.de)

[www.ukulelenclub.de](http://www.ukulelenclub.de) (home page)

[www.ukulelenboard.de](http://www.ukulelenboard.de) (message board)

### Deutscher Ukulelenclub

c/o Raimund Sper

Korneliusstrasse 1

D-47441 Moers

tel. +49/2841-394837

fax + 49/2841-394836

[www.ukulelenclub.de](http://www.ukulelenclub.de)

## Holland

Ukulele Jamboree in Rotterdam - hosted by 'The Uke Box'

The night is comprised of a workshop, performances & open mic.

To Join the Mailing List send an e-mail to: [guaranteed2swoon@gmail.com](mailto:guaranteed2swoon@gmail.com)

To read more about this and our other ukulele projects go to:

<http://www.ukulele-interventie.blogspot.com> (Dutch)

Visit my personal blog spot and click on 'Ukulele' under "Contents" (English)

<http://www.shelleyrickey.blogspot.com>

### 'Uke & D'Uke'

<http://ukeandduke.blogspot.com/> (in Dutch)

Note: Shelley has an Etsy store where you can find ukulele related items for sale, check it out: <http://www.thejumpingfleaemarket.etsy.com>

## France

### Ukulele Club of Paris

Thursday starting 7:30 PM

Meetings are announced on the website King David Ukulele Station at this URL:

<http://www.ukulele.fr>

### C.O.U.L.E.

Club Olympique de Ukulélé de Lille et des Environs

<http://www.COULE.fr>

"Stay cool, come and play with the C.O.U.L.E."

### **VSalele**

Association des Ukuleliste de Valbonne Sophia Antipolis (Alpes Maritimes)

Visit [www.vsalele.org](http://www.vsalele.org) for more info

### **Spain**

#### **Club del Ukelele de Madrid (SPAIN)**

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=131466486122>

"Para todos los aficionados al ukelele que viven en  
Madrid

"For all the ukelele fans living at Madrid"

Now preparing their first festival and meeting very soon -  
stay tuned!





## USA

### **Lone Star Ukulele Festival**

dates are 4/27-28 in Dallas

UkeLadyMusic and The Dallas Ukulele Headquarters are organizing the event.  
more information coming soon.

### **Kill Country Acoustic Music Camps in Kerrville, TX**

We are pleased to be adding Ukulele faculty and classes to it's Feb and June camps in 2011. Pops Bayless will be teaching at both camps. Camp details at [www.hcamp.org](http://www.hcamp.org) email=[rbm@hcamp.org](mailto:rbm@hcamp.org)

### **Reno Tahoe Ukulele Fest III**

**March 18-20, 2011 at John Ascuaga's Nugget Resort in Sparks, NV....**

Daniel Ho and Victoria Vox will headline the Celebrity Showroom Concerts. Lots of great ukulele vendors, workshops, open mic, and much more...  
Details at [PlayUke.net](http://PlayUke.net)!

## UK Ukefest

## Austria

"European Songwriter Workshop" In Innsbruck, Austria. Last year there were 23 participants from 16 different countries and it was a great experience for every participants. You find all the results and a lot of impressions of this workshop at the following URL: <http://www.saitenstechen.at/workshop>

Next Year in **May 2011** I will be hosting an "Acoustic-Strings Workshop" that will bring together again 25 Musicians (playing Guitar, Mandolin, Ukulele, Bouzouki, Saz) from different European Countries in Innsbruck - Austria. The Workshop will be **held from 14.05 - 21.05.2011** and will last one week.

## **Belgium**

Ukulele Zaza (Belgium) [www.myspace.com/ukulelezaza](http://www.myspace.com/ukulelezaza)

## **France**

Marie Darling (France) [www.myspace.com/mariedarling](http://www.myspace.com/mariedarling)

Patti Plinko and her Boy (UK)

[www.myspace.com/pattiplinkoandherboy](http://www.myspace.com/pattiplinkoandherboy)

Les Ukulélé Boyz (France) [www.myspace.com/ukuleleboys47](http://www.myspace.com/ukuleleboys47)

## **Vonck and Vlam**

touring from Holland to Istanbul - this summer...

[www.vonck-vlam.eu](http://www.vonck-vlam.eu)

Check out the Website... that's great entertainment!



## Essential Links from the World-Wide-Web

**UkeTalk** - <http://uketalk.com/links.html>

"Ukulele Spoken Here" is one phrase that comes to mind. If you want to talk ukulele or catch all the news that is news, this is a can't miss website.

**Brudda Bu's Ukulele Heaven**

<http://www.geocities.com/~ukulele/index.html>

If you'd like to learn the history of some of ukulele's greatest players, this site is absolutely essential.

**Ukulelia** - <http://www.ukulelia.com/>

The World's Greatest Ukulele WebLog" Need I say more?

**Ukulele Cosmos** - <http://www.ukulelecosmos.com>

One of the hottest ukulele forums on the web. Don't Miss It!

**Ukulele Underground**

<http://www.ukuleleunderground.com/forum/index.php>

Another really popular ukulele forum, lots of Hawaiian players and folks from the West Coast of the Mainland USA.

**Flea Market Music** - <http://www.fleamarketmusic.com/default.asp>

This is Jumpin' Jim Beloff's website. He has lots of great resources and an excellent forum as well. You can buy Flukes and Fleas there, too. Jim also has lots of songbooks, DVDs, and other great stuff there.

**UkeLadyMusic** - <http://www.ukeladymusic.com/>

Auntie Noel runs a really great shop. Her passion is ukulele and it shows.

Contact Us: phone 214-924-0408

or email [noel.tardy@yahoo.com](mailto:noel.tardy@yahoo.com)

**Kiwi Ukulele**

New Zealand's Ukulele Companion

<http://www.kiwiukulele.co.nz/>

**Bounty Music**

<http://www.ukes.com/>

Bounty Music Maui

111 Hana Hwy. #105

Kahului, Maui, HI 96732

open 9 :00 to 6:00 Monday thru Saturday \* Sunday 10:00 to 4:00

Phone: (808) 871-1141

Fax: (808) 871-1138



# Online Resources

<http://www.tikiking.com>

[tikiking@tikiking.com](mailto:tikiking@tikiking.com)

comment=Website listing:

Home of Tiki King Ukuleles since 1999. lots of neat Ukulele stuff, such as the webs largest Ukulele makers database, Custom Hand Built Tiki King Ukuleles, and ukulele stuff to see and buy. We have Flukes and Fleas, Ukulele Art Gallery, Ukulele classes, chord charts, CD's and more!

## **Bonsai Garden Orchestra**

email: [info@bgo.nu](mailto:info@bgo.nu)

Webside: <http://www.bgo.nu>

MySpace: <http://www.myspace.com/bonsaigardenorchestra>

World Music Festival "glattundverkehrt" on july 22nd .

[www.glattundverkehrt.at](http://www.glattundverkehrt.at)

## **UkePics**

Assorted Ukulele Picture Exposé

<http://www.ukepics.com/>

## **How High The Moon Publishing**

Publisher of the Jam Book "Play Well with Other"

9826 James A. Reed Rd. Kansas City, MO 64134

816-965-0183 or 816-728-6936

<http://www.moonbookstore.com>

**Uke Farm** - <http://www.ukefarm.com/home.HTML>

**Uke Farm Radio** - <http://www.live365.com/stations/ukefarm>

## **GoChords**

<http://www.gochords.com>

"GoChords™" is an easy-to-use writing and playing tool with moveable chord tablature!"

## **Live 'Ukulele**

Tabs, lessons, and info for 'ukulele enthusiasts

<http://liveukulele.com/>

<http://ukeattitude.blogspot.com/>

<http://twitter.com/ukeattitude>

<http://gotaukulele.blogspot.com/>

<http://ukulele-perspective.com>